made some important recommendations on rehabilitation of women involved in flesh trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these recommendations also include rehabilitation of minor female children also involved in flesh trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to implement these recommendations to provide honourable social status to such affected women and minor female children; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Extension of Diphu-Karong Railway Line upto Imphal

1486. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s RITES prepared a feasibility report of an alternative rail link connecting Diphu and Karong and its extension upto Imphal on MG rail alignment;

(b) whether Government propose to take it up as stated by the Railway Minister to give special attention to the neglected 7 sister States in his first press conference; and

(c) if so, by when; if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Updating of the survey done by RITES in 1990 has been included in the budget 96-97.

U.G.C. Budget Freeze

1487. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budget freeze of the UGC still continues to exist;

(b) if so, whether Government are convinced that UGC budget freeze is essential for ameliorating the condition of higher education; and

(c) whether Government propose to continue the UGC budget freeze?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir. The Plan and Non-Plan grants provided by the Government to University Grants Commission (UGC) have been steadily increasing over the years. The Government has allocated an amount of Rs. 612.38 crore to UGC for the 8th Plan as against a sum of Rs. 576.01 crore provided in the 7th Plan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Assistance to Farmers under Crop specific programmes

1488. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government provide asistance to the farmers for aquiring agricultural implements and machines under various crop specific programmes launched by Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many farmers in the State of Madhya Pradesh were provided this assistanace during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(d) whether any training is also given to the farmers of the State in the operation of new implements and machines; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under various crop specific programmes such as Integrated Cereals Development Programme on Rice (ICDP-Rice), ICDP-Wheat, ICDP-Coarse Cereals, Special Jute Development Programme etc., assistance is provided for the distribution of implements/machines to farmers, which includes implements/machines like paddy planter, puddler, seed cum fertiliser drill, cultivator, maize planter, disc/blade harro, wheel hoe etc. These are manually/bullock drawn.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Under the above mentioned Schemes, farmers are given training for the adoption of new technologies including use of implements/machines.

News report on Urea Scam in West Bengal

1489. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Hindustan Times, dated 26th June, 1996 captioned "Now a urea scam in West Bengal" involving the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) for nearly 14,000 tonnes of imported urea for Hindustan Lever;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the sub-standard quality and harmful effects to the crops by the above-mentioned urea shipped in from a foreign firm to West Bengal; and

(c) the remedial steps Government propose to take in consultation with West Bengal in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of the total material discharged from vessel "Sea Venus" at Sagour Port and subject to quality check, 6514 MTs of urea was found to meet the quality specifications as prescribed in the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) 1985. The balance 11,736 MTs met the nutrient specifications but was reported to be deficient in particle size.

The distribution to farmers of the entire quantity declared non-standard by the State Government has been stopped.

M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd. have applied to the State Government for permission to dispose off the non-standard urea as per the provisions of F.C.O. Separately, Government of India has issued notice to M/s National Fertilizers Limited, the canalising agency in this case, for imposition of penalty for the deviation in particle size.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO QUESTION— 12.00 Noon

Starred Question 44, dated 12th July, 1996 regarding stoppage of Special dispensation admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Statement to be made by the Minister for Human Resource Development, Mr. S.R. Bommai... *(interruptions)*...

श्री एस० एस० अहलुवालिया: *(बिहार) मंत्री जी नहीं हैं।... (व्यवधान)*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): He told me yesterday that he was leaving for Atlanta — for treatment or